



ecology and environment, inc.

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International Specialists in the Environmental Sciences

DATE: March 3, 1983
TO: File/USEPA Region V
FROM: Paul D. Shea
SUBJECT: Preliminary Assessment

Review

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



300726

Illinois/TDD#RO5-8212-01A-122
Joliet/Caterpillar Tractor Company
ILD005070537

Attached is EPA's Preliminary Assessment Form 2070-12 for the above referenced site.

Primary information was gathered from the following source(s):

1. USEPA Erris files
- 2.
- 3.

Information indicates the following responsible parties should be listed. They are listed here because of space limitations:

1. None
- 2.
- 3.

Presently, data gaps or no verification exists in the following key area(s):

1. Waste quantity
2. Groundwater/surface water/soil contamination
3. Contamination/damage to biota

A review of the available data indicates that additional information will be necessary to assess the impact(s) on:

1. Waste quantity
2. Groundwater
3. Surface water
- 4.
- 5.

Suggested methods/sources for obtaining additional information are:

1. On site inspection
2. Off site inspection
3. Sampling

Notice of an apparent need for emergency action was transmitted to N/A on N/A by N/A.



POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE
PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT
PART 1 - SITE INFORMATION AND ASSESSMENT

I IDENTIFICATION
01 STATE IL 02 SITE NUMBER 0005070537

II. SITE NAME AND LOCATION

01 SITE NAME (Legal, common, or descriptive name of site) CATERPILLAR TRACTOR CO. PLANT		02 STREET, ROUTE NO., OR SPECIFIC LOCATION IDENTIFIER ROUTE 6, CHANNAHON ROAD			
03 CITY JOLIET	04 STATE IL	05 ZIP CODE 60434	06 COUNTY WILL	07 COUNTY CODE 197	08 CONG DIST 17
09 COORDINATES LATITUDE 41° 40' 34.0" LONGITUDE 088° 08' 07.5"		TOPO MAP: CHANNAHON QUAD. * JOLIET QUAD.			
10 DIRECTIONS TO SITE (Starting from nearest public road) I-55 TO ROUTE 6 NORTH, GO ABOUT 4 MILES AND TURN RIGHT, OR FOLLOW ROUTE 6 SOUTHWEST OUT OF JOLIET. CHANNAHON ROAD AND TURN SOUTH TO SITE - CATERPILLAR TRACTOR					

III. RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

01 OWNER (If known) CATERPILLAR TRACTOR CO.		02 STREET (Business, making, residential) ROUTE 6, CHANNAHON ROAD			
03 CITY JOLIET	04 STATE IL	05 ZIP CODE 60434	06 TELEPHONE NUMBER (815) 729-5511		
07 OPERATOR (If known and different from owner) MR. GREGORY M. WERNERT		08 STREET (Business, making, residential) ROUTE 6, CHANNAHON ROAD			
09 CITY JOLIET		10 STATE IL	11 ZIP CODE 60434	12 TELEPHONE NUMBER (815) 729-5319	
13 TYPE OF OWNERSHIP (Check one): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. PRIVATE <input type="checkbox"/> B. FEDERAL <input type="checkbox"/> C. STATE <input type="checkbox"/> D. COUNTY <input type="checkbox"/> E. MUNICIPAL <input type="checkbox"/> F. OTHER <input type="checkbox"/> G. UNKNOWN					

14 OWNER/OPERATOR NOTIFICATION ON FILE (Check all that apply):
☒ A. RCRA 3001 DATE RECEIVED **8/12/80** ☒ B. UNCONTROLLED WASTE SITE (RCRA 103(c)) DATE RECEIVED **6/9/81** ☐ C. NONE

IV. CHARACTERIZATION OF POTENTIAL HAZARD

01 ON SITE INSPECTION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES DATE 2/28/82 <input type="checkbox"/> NO		BY (Check all that apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. EPA <input type="checkbox"/> B. EPA CONTRACTOR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. STATE <input type="checkbox"/> D. OTHER CONTRACTOR <input type="checkbox"/> E. LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIAL <input type="checkbox"/> F. OTHER CONTRACTOR NAME(S):			
02 SITE STATUS (Check one): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A. ACTIVE <input type="checkbox"/> B. INACTIVE <input type="checkbox"/> C. UNKNOWN		03 YEARS OF OPERATION BEGINNING YEAR 1951 ENDING YEAR 1969 <input type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN			

04 DESCRIPTION OF SUBSTANCES POSSIBLY PRESENT, KNOWN, OR ALLEGED
HEAVY METALS (TOXIC, PERSISTENT) ACIDS (TOXIC, CORROSIVE)
ORGANICS (TOXIC, PERSISTENT) BASES
INORGANICS (PERSISTENT, LOW TOXIC) SOLVENTS (TOXIC, PERSISTENT, VOLATILE)

05 DESCRIPTION OF POTENTIAL HAZARD TO ENVIRONMENT AND/OR POPULATION
LEACH INTO GROUNDWATER (ENVIRONMENT + POPULATION)
RUNOFF INTO SURFACE WATER (ENVIRONMENT + POPULATION)

V. PRIORITY ASSESSMENT

01 PRIORITY FOR INSPECTION (Check one, if high or medium is checked, complete Part 2 - Waste Information and Part 3 - Description of Hazardous Conditions and Incidents)
☐ A. HIGH (Inspection required promptly) ☐ B. MEDIUM (Inspection required) ☐ C. LOW (Inspection on time available basis) ☐ D. NONE (No further action needed, complete current disposition form)

VI. INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM

01 CONTACT PERSON MR. KEN BECHELV MR. JAY PITEL	02 OFFICE (Agency/Organization) ILLINOIS EPA, MAYWOOD	03 TELEPHONE NUMBER 312-345-9780
04 PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSESSMENT	05 AGENCY	06 ORGANIZATION
	07 TELEPHONE NUMBER ()	08 DATE 1/1/81

07 SITE NUMBER
D005070537

☒ I HIGHLY VOLATILE
☐ J EXPLOSIVE
☐ K REACTIVE
☐ L INCOMPATIBLE
☐ M NOT APPLICABLE



POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE
PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT

PART 3 - DESCRIPTION OF HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS

I. IDENTIFICATION

01 STATE 02 SITE NUMBER

IL D005070537

II. HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS

01 ☒ A GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: >10,000

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

☒ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

POTENTIAL LEACHING OF CONTAMINANTS FROM BURIED DRUMS
INTO GROUNDWATER.

01 ☒ B SURFACE WATER CONTAMINATION

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: >10,000

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

☒ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

RUNOFF AND/OR LEACHING OF BURIED CONTAMINATION INTO
NEARBY SURFACE WATER - DES PLAINES RIVER.

01 ☐ C. CONTAMINATION OF AIR

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: _____

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

01 ☐ D. FIRE/EXPLOSIVE CONDITIONS

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: _____

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

01 ☐ E. DIRECT CONTACT

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: _____

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

☐ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

01 ☒ F. CONTAMINATION OF SOIL

03 AREA POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: 400
(ACRES)

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

☒ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

DRUMS BURIED IN SOIL.
SPILLS AND LEAKAGE A POSSIBILITY.

01 ☒ G. DRINKING WATER CONTAMINATION

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: UNK

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

☒ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

ASSUME THAT DRINKING WATER IS AFFECTED IF GROUNDWATER
AQUIFER OF CONCERN BECOMES CONTAMINATED.

01 ☒ H. WORKER EXPOSURE/INJURY

03 WORKERS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: ≈ 50

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

☒ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO WORKERS AND/OR CLEANUP
CREW PRESENT ON SITE.

01 ☒ I. POPULATION EXPOSURE/INJURY

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: >10,000

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____)

☒ POTENTIAL

☐ ALLEGED

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

POPULATION EXPOSURE THROUGH CONTACT WITH CONTAMINATED
GROUNDWATER - DRINKING OR SURFACE WATER - RECREATION.



POTENTIAL HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE
PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT
PART 3 - DESCRIPTION OF HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS

I. IDENTIFICATION
01 STATE 02 SITE NUMBER
IL D005070537

II. HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AND INCIDENTS (Continued)

01 ☒ J. DAMAGE TO FLORA
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____) ☒ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED

ASSUMED IF CONTAMINATION HAS REACHED DES PLAINES
RIVER WATERSHED.

01 ☒ K. DAMAGE TO FAUNA
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION (include name(s) of species)

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____) ☒ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED

REFER TO ITEM "J"

01 ☒ L. CONTAMINATION OF FOOD CHAIN
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____) ☒ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED

TOXIC, PERSISTENT CHEMICAL WASTE COULD
POTENTIALLY CONTAMINATE AND BIOACCUMULATE IN FOOD CH.

01 ☒ M. UNSTABLE CONTAINMENT OF WASTES
(Spills/runoff/standing liquids/leaking drums)

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____) ☒ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED

03 POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: 710,000

04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

TOXIC WASTE BURIED IN DRUMS ON SITE.
POTENTIAL SPILLAGE AND/OR LEAKAGE FROM DECAY OF DRUMS

01 ☐ N. DAMAGE TO OFFSITE PROPERTY
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____) ☐ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED

01 ☐ O. CONTAMINATION OF SEWERS, STORM DRAINS, WWTPs
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____) ☐ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED

01 ☐ P. ILLEGAL/UNAUTHORIZED DUMPING
04 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

02 ☐ OBSERVED (DATE: _____) ☐ POTENTIAL ☐ ALLEGED

05 DESCRIPTION OF ANY OTHER KNOWN, POTENTIAL, OR ALLEGED HAZARDS

NORLING FACTOR → 15

III. TOTAL POPULATION POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: 710,000

IV. COMMENTS

THE SITE HAS BEEN USED SINCE 1950 AS A MANUFACTURING FACILITY FOR CATERPILLAR.
IT IS STILL IN USE TODAY. WASTE WAS GENERATED DURING NORMAL OPERATIONS OF SLUDGE
CLEANOUT OF PROCESSES → CAUSTIC METAL CLEANING, CHROME PLATING + PRODUCT PAINTING
OPERATIONS. WASTE WAS DISPOSED OF IN STEEL DRUMS - BURIED.

V. SOURCES OF INFORMATION (Cite specific references, e. g., state files, sample analysis, reports)

USEPA ERRIS FILE - REGION II, CHICAGO